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ADMINISTRATION REPORT
ON THE
HILL TRACTS, NORTHERN ARAKAN
FOR
The year 1873-74.

India - Government
publications



Rangoon:
PRINTED AT THE GOVERNMENT PRESS.

1874.

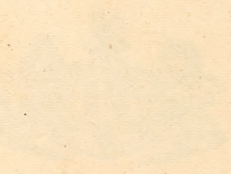
S/O
1907

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ADMINISTRATIVE REPORT

FRAGMENTS OF NORTHERN ARAKAN

THE YEAR 1907



REPORT

OF THE

1907

THE UNIVERSITY OF CHICAGO

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ADMINISTRATION REPORT

ON THE

HILL TRACTS OF NORTHERN ARAKAN

FOR

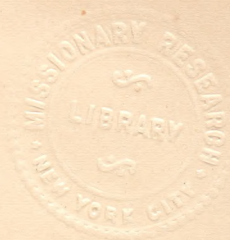
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RESOLUTION
ON THE
ADMINISTRATION REPORT
OF THE
HILL TRACTS, NORTHERN ARAKAN
For the year 1873-74.

Extract from the Proceedings of the Chief Commissioner, British Burma, in the Political Department,—No. 93, dated the 23rd October 1874.

READ—

The Administration Report of the Hill Tracts, Northern Arakan, for the
year 1873-74.

THE principles laid down for the administration of the Hill Tracts of Northern Arakan appear to have been conscientiously followed by the officers entrusted with this duty, and their endeavours have already been attended with even greater success than was anticipated. Captain Hughes' report shows that the wishes of Government with regard to the policy and demeanour to be observed towards tributary and non-tributary hill tribes have been carried out with much discretion, and that in civilising the people within our line, and accustoming them to settled habits of life and a fixed system of Government, as well as in conciliating and influencing for good tribes residing beyond it, there has been a steady and satisfactory progress.

2. The raids which a few years ago kept the inhabitants of this country in a constant state of dread and insecurity have now entirely ceased, and during the year there has not been a single raid upon any of the tributary tribes—this, too, in a year in which, outside the range of our influence, raids have been exceptionally numerous. One raid was threatened, but the activity of the police averted the attack, and the marauders turned upon their confederates' village and carried off several captives. Our wild subjects are beginning, it seems, so far to understand our rule as to feel constrained to abstain (as in the case noticed in paras. 58 and 59 of the report) from joining their non-tributary clansmen in attacks on their hereditary foes. The exchange of civilities with outlying

Chiefs has continued. During the year, the Superintendent visited some of the hitherto irreconcilable tribes of Khyengs and Mros beyond our frontier, and obtained promises of better behaviour towards one another ; and the rival Chiefs have since returned the visit. The Koons, formerly the most troublesome tribe in our neighbourhood, are now engaged in friendly intercourse and trade with our people. Messengers to feel the way for further communication have been sent in by the more remote Shindoos, and one powerful sept of this clan have voluntarily bound themselves to respect the persons and property of British subjects. The non-tributary Khyengs come into our bazaars in greater numbers than heretofore, and generally the attitude of the surrounding tribes is peaceful and friendly. Fear and self-interest are steadily sapping the old prejudices and reluctance to meet us. The experience of other districts on the Eastern Frontier of Bengal is repeating itself, and the respect which naturally arises from a strong, just, and consistent policy, combined with the advantages of an enlarged trade, are having the usual effect upon the wild tribes. They see our people living and cultivating in comparative security, and enjoying the benefits of their labour in the shape of cheap and abundant food, salt, clothing, and implements ; and the result, if gradual, is inevitable.

3. One cause of this better state of things is undoubtedly the improved *personnel* and experience of the police. The constitution of the force up to 1871 was very bad ; it consisted chiefly of men from the plains of Arakan and Bengal, who could not stand the climate, and never would have exposed themselves to it if they could have got employment elsewhere. These have now been got rid of, and the force is in every way a suitable one for the work. Of a total of 256, 75 are natives of the Arakan hills, and 128 Indian hill-men,—Ghoorkhas, Tipperahs, Munnipoories,—with whom the Superintendent seems much pleased. One new station on the east bank of the Kalan, with one Inspector and twenty-six men, has barred the way by which Shindoo marauders used to come down. Every year adds to the police knowledge of the tribes and their ways, which, after all, are not very intricate or crafty ; and this knowledge, together with improved sources of information as to the movements of the tribes, gives them a steadily-increasing power of repressing violent crimes. The hill police were able this year to prevent a raid upon the Chittagong side, and to arrest and convict the ringleaders. This and one case of murder were the only cases of violent

crime in the district ; while the returns show a decrease of crime of all sorts, and a large proportionate detection. With a population of 12,359 persons, embracing no less than eleven different tribes or nationalities, some of them brought within the influence of civilization only within the last few years, there were only 39 offences reported and 53 persons convicted, and, as already stated, only one violent crime was actually committed during the year. What is still more satisfactory to note is, that though there was a comparatively very large increase of population, there was a decrease in the number of offences committed.

4. Within our frontier, in all respects there are signs of steady progress. The people are learning our ways, and taking service under Government ; five or six of the most influential Chiefs are in our pay, and assist the Superintendent in keeping order ; and, as stated above, seventy-five hill-men, or nearly thirty per cent. of the whole force, are employed in the police—last year there were only forty-five. It is necessary to exercise some caution in enlisting hill-men, and they are selected impartially from the different clans ; but the policy of employing hill-men in the administration, and so identifying the people of the country with the Government, has already borne good fruit, and must be adhered to.

5. The code of Regulations which are to be applied to these tracts under 33 Vic., cap. 3, has not yet become law, but it is now under the consideration of the Government of India, and it is expected that it will be promulgated in a short time ; meanwhile, the judicial work is satisfactorily carried on by the Superintendent and his assistants. The cases are few, and the procedure is kept as simple as possible—indeed, it would appear that Captain Hughes has a very proper appreciation of what is required in this respect.

6. The revenue of these tracts is collected on a very simple principle, which has recently been made still simpler. The total revenue from all sources was Rs. 4,459, giving an excess of Rs. 517 over the collections of last year. With reference to a remark as to the incidence of taxation in last year's report, an enquiry was made by the Chief Commissioner, and, on the report of the Superintendent, the tax was settled at one rupee capitation tax and one rupee for each *toungya* or *jhoom* cultivator. Subsequent to the year of review, the question as to the receipt of tribute from tribes beyond our administrative frontier arose, and the Superintendent was instructed to explain to the tribes so situated that we should

not undertake to extend our protection or assistance to them ; but if they still offered tribute, each case was to be reported to the Chief Commissioner for disposal on its merits. The Chief Commissioner is of opinion that tribute in such cases should be accepted only after grave consideration, but is not prepared to say that it should invariably be refused. Mr. Eden wishes it to be understood by the Superintendent that the collection of revenue is a very minor consideration in dealing with questions connected with the settlement of his district. What we want is, that peace, quiet, and contentment shall induce the people now within our boundaries to turn their attention to steady cultivation without fear of being molested by marauding parties, and shall hold out to the tribes beyond our frontier encouragement to abandon their present restless life, and turn their attention to legitimate trade and barter. Wherever the trade in captives is put down, these people will readily take to the collection of forest produce and the cultivation of cotton, tobacco, lac and oil seeds, and exchange it in our markets for salt, rice, cloth, beads and hardware. The Superintendent should endeavour to arrange that a fresh supply of such articles is always available for them at reasonable rates, and it should be the duty of his native officials to see that the ignorant dealers from beyond the frontier are not cheated by the regular traders.

7. Cultivation within our boundaries is naturally increasing : to the old industries of cotton and tobacco culture is now added that of teak-planting, chiefly by Shan colonists, aided by tuccavee advances. The whole question of teak cultivation in these hills is being dealt with in the Forest Department, and the Conservator of Forests, who has lately visited that part of the country, has arranged for a continuance of the system of cultivation through Shans and others. A Forest Officer will be deputed in the cold season to examine the forests and see what other kinds of valuable timber they may contain. The tobacco of these hills is a very delicate leaf, much prized by smokers, and is better cured than other Burma tobacco. Captain Hughes has taken a great interest in this and in the cotton cultivation of his district : he has made experiments in both, and contributed a valuable and interesting collection of local products to the Akyab Agricultural Show during the year. The hill-men still find that it pays them better to grow tobacco, cotton, and what is known as garden produce for sale, and to buy their rice from the plains, than to grow their own paddy in any quantity.

8. The Chief Commissioner considers that Captain Hughes deserves great praise for the intelligent manner in which he has managed his district and has conducted his relations with the frontier tribes during the year. Messrs. Hannay and Porter have continued to give him zealous assistance. It is to be regretted that the Government of Bengal has not yet done anything towards opening out communication from the Chittagong Hill Tracts.

By order of the Chief Commissioner,

H. T. DUNCAN, *Lieut.-Colonel,*
Officiating Secretary.

ADMINISTRATION REPORT
OF THE
HILL TRACTS, NORTHERN ARAKAN,
For the year 1873-74.

From COLONEL E. M. RYAN, Commissioner of the Arakan Division, to the Officiating Secretary to the Chief Commissioner, British Burma,—No. 215, dated Akyab, the 20th July 1874.

I HAVE the honor to forward the Annual Administration Report of the Hill Tracts of this division for 1873-74, submitted by Captain W. G. Hughes, the Superintendent of that District. It embraces every subject connected with his district, and is so detailed, that I have only a few comments to make on some of the most important passages.

2. The absence of raids on our tribute-paying villages during the year of report, as stated in his 53rd paragraph, is very satisfactory, and great credit is due to Captain Hughes and his assistants, Mr. Hannay and Inspector Porter, for this result.

3. I notice also with satisfaction the good effect of our rule in preventing the tributary Khyengs joining in the raid on the trans-frontier Mros, mentioned in Captain Hughes' 58th paragraph.

4. I think Captain Hughes is quite correct in anticipating (*vide* his 62nd paragraph) that some of the tribes beyond the boundary line will gradually come therein on their observing the order and regularity preserved within the Hill Tracts.

5. In his 72nd paragraph Captain Hughes remarks that the population has increased by 5,297 in three years (but from his figures it would be four years), which is ascribed to the quiet and safety now enjoyed by the people, also to immigration and removal of villages to within our frontier.

6. Captain Hughes notes in his 74th paragraph the increase in the cultivation of tobacco. Mr. Broughton has reported very favorably on the hill tobacco. It would be very advantageous if some person was deputed to teach the people the art of curing tobacco, if such a person could be procured.

7. As regards his paragraphs 82 to 86, I have to observe that as the teak flourishes so well and the cultivators are willing to dispose of their young plantations to Government, they should receive a fair price for them as Government would eventually be great gainers thereby, but care should be taken that the plantations are near some stream whence the trees on attaining maturity could be easily floated down during the rains, plantations formed at inaccessible places will be of little value.

8. Referring to Captain Hughes' remarks in his 89th paragraph on the incidence of taxation, I have to add that the matter has recently been settled by the Chief Commissioner fixing an equable rate of taxation at one rupee for capitation tax and one rupee per toungya cultivator, being a uniform rate of two rupees throughout the district.

9. As regards the composition of the police force given in Captain Hughes' 121st paragraph, there can be little doubt that the Ghoorkas and Munipoorees are by far the best class of men for police in the Hill Tracts, the wild nature of the country and the people more resembling their own. In my opinion no other policemen should be employed for these parts except the people of the country.

10. Captain Hughes notices in his 133rd paragraph that very little rice is grown consequent on the cultivation of cotton and tobacco being found so much more profitable. On speaking on this subject with the Superintendent of Hill Tracts, I directed him to try and stimulate the people to grow more rice for their home consumption, which they could easily do in their toungyas or hill cultivation.

11. In paragraphs 142 and 143 Captain Hughes reports an epidemic of small-pox on the Lemroo. A vaccinator from the Akyab Dispensary was immediately despatched to the spot on the matter being brought to my notice: he succeeded in vaccinating 137 persons. Vaccination has thus been quietly introduced for the first time amongst the hill tribes, who have readily allowed themselves to be vaccinated.

12. Captain Hughes appears to pay great attention to the improvement of the Hill Tracts, and I am much satisfied with his administration. Mr. Hannay and Inspector Porter, his police assistants, appear also to ably support him in the cause of order and repression of raids.

Administration Report of the Hill Tracts, Northern Arakan, for the year 1873-74, by CAPTAIN W. G. HUGHES, Superintendent Hill Tracts, Northern Arakan,—(No. 13, Political).

THIS report is submitted in accordance with the Provincial Rules, paragraph 11, prescribed by the late Chief Commissioner, Sir Arthur Phayre, for the administration of these Tracts, and is divided into the following heads :—

HEADS OF REPORT.

- A.—Physical description of the country, its boundaries and inhabitants, known as the Hill Tracts of Arakan.
- B.—Foreign, or our relations with tribes *beyond* the British frontier, and raids during the year.
- C.—Domestic, comprising all important measures, and matters connected with the internal administration during the year, together with the usual Civil and Criminal Justice Reports condensed.

2. The separate memoranda for this report, together with the statistical returns, have already been submitted.

3. This report will form the third one which has been submitted since the introduction of the

The present report, the third one submitted since the introduction of the new administrative measures.

new administrative measures framed by the Chief Commissioner, and sanctioned by the Government of India in

the Foreign Department (Political), No. 1451, dated Simla, July 10th, 1871.

4. The manners, customs and domestic life of the hillmen having been from time to time treated of in former reports, this portion to avoid repetition will, under its own head, therefore be necessarily brief.

PHYSICAL DESCRIPTION.

A.—Physical description of the country, its boundaries and inhabitants, known as the Hill Tracts of Arakan.

5. The Hill Tracts of Arakan have attached to them two

Two descriptions of boundaries attached to the Hill Tracts District.

lines of boundaries, one being termed "the geographical," and the other the "administrative" or "political."

6. The "administrative" form that portion of the hills under our *direct* control, where, as far as possible, order, regularity, and rule are enforced and tribute exacted ; the "geographical" comprise those tracts which at present, paying *no* tribute to the British Government, we do not desire, nor is it feasible to bring under our immediate administration, and are therefore

left in the hands of the Chiefs, whom it is enjoined on the Superintendent that he should by cultivating their friendship and maintaining friendly relationship with, influence as far as he can, but at the same time carefully abstain from interfering with or coercing.

Geographical boundaries
of the Hill Tracts.

7. The geographical or territorial limits of the Hill Tracts are,—

On the North and North-east.—Independent tribes, chiefly Lushais or Kukies, and Shindoos or Pooies, separating the Arakan frontier from Manipore and Cachar.

On the East.—Upper Burma.

On the West.—The Mawdaw range in the Chittagong Hill Tracts.

On the South.—The Akyab District.

Administrative boundaries.

8. The administrative boundaries are,—

North.—An imaginary line drawn from the mouth of Kolawah stream on the Kooladan river, due east and west, until it touches the water-shed of the Kooladan river on the east, and the border of the Chittagong District on the west.

East and South-east.—An imaginary line running from the northern boundary in a south-easterly direction along the Kyouk-pin-doung range, until the junction of the Maw and Seng rivers. It then follows the course of the latter river (which properly is termed the Than), until it joins the Lemroo, which river it again follows until its junction with the Rua Yaw stream.

South.—An imaginary line from the last point to the police post of Myouktoung on the Kooladan river, from where it runs along the eastern bank of the Kooladan river, as far as the post of that name.

West.—An imaginary line due west to the water-shed of the Pee river, from whence it runs north along the Mawdook range of hills, to the point above-named, as to the west of Kolawah on the western frontier.

9. The administrative boundaries as distinct from the geographical were clearly shown in the map which accompanied my report for 1871-72, and were marked red in contradistinction to the latter, which were shown in blue.

10. The survey map of the Akyab District of Burma, known as "O'Donel's," indicates roughly the above boundaries, but is far from accurate, and it is difficult to note the

Survey map by "O'Donel" roughly indicates the above boundaries.

number of square miles which the mountainous area of the Hill Tracts covers; that given by the Surveyor-General of India is 1,213 square miles, which is, I think, under the figure.

11. The physical features of the district are ranges of hills covered with dense tree and bamboo jungle, interspersed with mountain streams, which form the feeders of the two large rivers, known as the Lemroo and Kooladan; valleys will be found in almost every direction penetrating these hills, and by following which you rise gradually to higher regions.

12. The height of the more prominent ranges average over 3,000 feet, while one range of hills, which constitute the most central point of the district, and lie within one night's journey of the present head-quarters, are close on 5,000 feet at their crest. This range is termed the Kyouk-pin-doung, and many centuries back it formed the palace and court of one of the Arakanese Kings, called the "Kan Rajah." A dwarfed species of the genus "*Quercus*" flourishes on this ridge.

13. The general run of the rivers as also the hills is north and south, and the latter gradually become higher and higher as they recede from the former.

14. The area of the mountainous tracts of the district is calculated at about 800 square miles. Gradual recession of the different tribes from their old mountain homes. and plain land only 13, but almost the whole of the hilly region is depopulated and deserted by the tribes who at one period lived and cultivated on it, and who have been clan by clan driven down during the last 30 or 40 years to settle along the fertile banks of the large rivers. Pressure by stronger tribes above, as also the greater facilities for obtaining the necessities of life, which residence near the rivers offer, have jointly forced them into this exodus.

15. The two chief rivers in the Hill Tracts are the Kooladan and the Lemroo. The source of both is unknown, but they are supposed to rise far north in the tract of country delineated on the topographical map of India, China, and Burma, as "undefined" and "unsurveyed," and after running near 300 miles through British territory, both empty themselves into the Bay of Bengal near the seaport town of Akyab. The Kooladan is a very picturesque river, and is open to large boats throughout the year as far as 140 miles from its mouth,

and to a steamer of light draught to the foot of the hills. The Lemroo is on the contrary rather an impracticable stream with no striking scenery along it, until the heart of the hills is reached, while the upper portion of it, during the rainy season, is simply a mountain torrent.

16. The confluent or feeders of these two rivers are, of the Kooladan—the Mee, Pee, Paluk, and Koola; and of the Lemroo—the Peng, Rua or Yua, Wet, and Than. It is along the banks of these large rivers and their feeders that the hillmen continue the cultivation of tobacco, rice, ginger, vegetables and other products.

Tributary tribes within the British boundary on the Kooladan and its confluent enumerated.

17. The Kooladan and its tributaries within the administrative boundary are peopled exclusively by four races of hillmen, as noted below:—

(1)—The Chyongthas	...	...	1,299
(2)—Khamies or Quaymee	...	...	6,956
(3)—Mros	...	...	2,051
(4)—Chaws	...	...	220

Total ... 10,526

18. Of these four divisions, the Mros and Khamies alone may be pronounced as the aboriginal tribes. A brief notice of each in their order will suffice.

19. The “Chyongthas” are, there is little question, of Arakanese stock, and, according to their ancient legends, were deputed by one of the Kings of Arakan, who selected the hardiest and bravest of his subjects to emigrate from the plains and settle in the hills in order to repel the wild tribes from marauding and making hostile incursions on the plains. The appellation “Chyongtha” itself somewhat bears out this story, as it means in the vernacular, the “Settler,” (or man along the river). I further consider it entitled to weight, because the universal hatred to the hills which is inherent in all natives of the plains, would take no settlers of their own free choice into so wild a country. Moreover, the fact that the Chyongthas are almost precisely identical with the Arakanese in dress, manners, customs and language, the only difference being that constant and daily intercourse with, and living amongst races who worship solely the elements and spirits of the hills and streams, has so moulded their lives as to induce them to relax, if not altogether abandon, the tenets of the sacred Gaudama, so that

History of the Chyongthas, who do not form a portion of the aboriginal tribes.

Bhuddism, and Bhuddist priests possess little if any attraction of them, confirms the truth of their old records as to their Arakanese origin. Their number is altogether about 1,299 souls, and they are again divided into 12 clans. Before Arakan was annexed by the British Government, a very large number of their tribe emigrated to Chittagong, because of the tyranny they experienced under Burmese rule, but since the annexation in 1826, they have been gradually returning to their old haunts in these hills.

20. The "Chyongthas" form the only portion of the population of the hill tribes who have any knowledge of reading or writing, and their written character is almost the same as the Burmese.

The Chyongthas the only race in the hills who have any written language.

21. Next come the "Khamies" and "Mros," whom I shall include under one head, as their religion and language are almost the same, so also are their feasts, method of agriculture, social usages, and civil laws bearing on debt, marriage, and divorce. These two divisions are, as I have said, the aborigines of the hills, and numbering about 9,007, are divided into several clans. It is only within the last 30 to 40 years that they have exchanged their mountain homes for the banks of the river Kooladan and its tributaries. Pressure from stronger tribes higher up and the advantages of easy access to the necessities of life, have, as before remarked, combined towards this result. Each of the clans has a distinct Chief and name, and it is curious to note how the stronger tribes have maintained their position on the north, while the weaker ones have receded towards the plains. Thus the two most powerful clans, known as the "Tancrine" and "Ab-boung," have maintained their position on and beyond our northern frontier for years.

22. The "Mros" live on a tributary of the Kooladan called the Mee, and are more manageable than the restless and turbulent

Mros.

Khamie, which in a great measure is attributable to their closer proximity to the plains. From time immemorial they have been regarded as the lowest in the scale of physical strength among the hill tribes, and have of late years been more harassed and had a greater number of war captives taken from them than any other of our tributary tribes. To this day, though it is near four years since any of their villages have been raided, many villages have constructed up a

high tree a palisaded musket-proof nest, connected with the village by a bamboo ladder, which serves men, women and children as a city of refuge in case of attack. It was probable some such structure as this which gave rise to the tale of tree-living Kukies, noticed in an old number of the Asiatic Society's Journal, and it is doubtless owing to the harassed life they have lead that the members of this tribe have more or less a marked careworn, uninteresting expression, which contrasts in a marked manner with the intellectual-looking Khamie.

23. The word "Khamée," "Khumeé," or "Kumie," both in the Mro and Khamie language, means simply "man."

24. Some years back there lived another tribe called "Mrus" in these hills, who, as remarked in my last year's report, are altogether a distinct race with a distinct language from the Khamies and Mros, and who have been driven away forcibly by the

Khamies to settle in the plains. They have from time to time been confused with the Mros. The word "Mro," as applied by natives of the plains to hillmen, merely signifies a "race" or "tribe;" thus, the Khamies residing high up in the hills and heads of streams are often termed "Apya Mro," while those nearer the mouths of large streams and the plains are distinguished as "Awa Mro"—*Apya*, signifying in Burmese "the extreme inland point," and *Awa*, "the mouth or source of anything."

25. I note the above as there has been much doubt as to the adaptation of the word "Mro" to some hill tribes.

26. The Chaws are an off-shoot of the Kukie family, and tradition says that they were offered as pagoda slaves by a pious Queen of Arakan, named "Tsawmagyee," some three centuries back, when Arakenese influence and the simple and pure tenets of Bhuddism extended far higher up in the hills than we at present control. Their duty was to keep clean and in order some pagodas, which are now more or less in ruins. Their language is a distinct one, and, unlike the aboriginal tribes or the Chyongthas, they bury and do not burn their dead. They tie their hair at the back in a manner resembling the Cingalese.

A hill tribe called "Mru" existed in the hills some years back, and who are occasionally confused with the "Mros."

Explanation of how the term "Mro" came to be applied to some of the Khamie tribe.

The Chaw tribe.

27. The next and last division of tributary tribes comprising the Hill Tracts District, are the "Khyengs" or "Chins" of the Lemroo, who are at present the most backward, retiring, and secluded, which is doubtless in some measure owing to their having until of late been left so much to themselves. They inhabit the valley of the Lemroo, and high ranges of hills which separate Burma Proper from Arakan, and in dress, manners, and the practice of tatting the faces of their women when young, resemble the Khyengs of Burma. Our tributary Khyengs of the Lemroo number close on 2,000.

28. Their language is almost a distinct one from that of the other tribes, and they perhaps approach nearer one's ideal of primeval man than any other race. The more remote tribes of the Upper Lemroo, such as the "Koos," sail as close to perfect nudity as they can, and being keen sportsmen, chiefly depend on their bows and arrows for their supply of animal food. To their poisoned arrows even game as large as bison and elephant become victims, the flesh of which, with fish, rice, and a few beads, supply all their worldly wants.

29. The progress made towards obtaining an influence over and acquiring an intimacy with, this little known but interesting division of our wild tribes, has been encouraging, and I shall allude to the same further on.

30. I have in my report for last year commented on the noteworthy fact, as throwing some light on the origin of our aboriginal tribes of Burma, that though there is a vast extent of country separating the Karens of Burma from the hill tribes of Arakan, there is such an affinity between the Khamie and Karen languages, as regards the most common-place words, as to afford every reason for believing that at one period both these large hill races of British Burma must have enjoyed the same common habitat, and that at a time when domestic animals were in use—for instance, the names for dog, cat, buffalo, and elephant—are substantially identical, as also the words, moon, star, fire, water, stone, bird, fish, tiger, bee, egg, eye, ear, nose; moreover from the little I know of the Karen language, it has a strong resemblance in sound to the Khamie.

31. None of our tribute-paying tribes, whether Khyengs or Khamies, present any striking difference

The several hill tribes have much in common as regards their domestic life, religion and customs. A description of one race nearly suffices for all.

either in their domestic lives or in the manner which, under a wild and primitive form, they abide by, and recognize certain common principles which regulate their social usages connected with birth, marriage, death, divorce, inheritance and debt. Without the faintest notion of a Supreme Being, both races enjoy a happy, primitive religion, which sees in the mountain streams, trees, and woods, mysterious spirits, whose mission is to watch over them for good or evil. Being superstitious and ignorant to a degree, the hillmen look to these spirits (almost as numerous as the natural forces they represent) for the relief of their bodily ailments, contagious disease, and even from death itself, and make suitable offerings to them according to their status; while before embarking on the more important steps in life, whether it be for instance to celebrate a successful harvest, or select the site of a new village, it is incumbent on them to consult the same.

32. They have no caste distinctions, neither priests, nor

No caste or priests among any of the wild tribes.

is polygamy common, though a few Chiefs practice it. Divorce is common and easily obtained, marriage being regarded simply as a civil right.

33. Their feasts, civil laws, method of agriculture, and domestic life, have been from time to time fully described, and it is needless to go over such well beaten and exhausted ground, but there is one custom I have noticed as common to all of the aboriginal tribes of Arakan, which I have not observed nor alluded to before, neither have

A system of prescribed periods for the observance of fasts prevalent among the tribes.

I come across it as common to the aboriginal tribes of India. I allude to the practice of a strict system of fasting in vogue among all on certain occasions and for specific periods. Thus, on the death of relatives the Mros observe a regular fast for 40 days, during which period they may only eat rice cooked by themselves. The Khamies on such occasion observe ten days as the period, and the Khyengs a still longer one. Again, there is a distinction drawn between the fast enjoined on the natural death of a relation, and that by a tiger, alligator, or by drowning. After certain festivals also a prescribed period of fasting is enjoined, and many of the Khamie clans avoid fish altogether when their paddy crops are ripe.

34. The strong evidence of physical appearance substantiates traditional report as to their Mongolian descent, shown by their high cheek bones, small oblique eyes, flat noses and broad faces. As a rule they are, with the exception of the Mros, a well made and intellectual looking happy race. Tatting

Explanation of the custom of tatting not satisfactory.

is practised by none of the hill tribes save the Khyengs, which rather militates against the theory that it was devised for

preventing captives taken in raids being recognized, for there were no greater raiders than the adjoining tribes of Khamies, Khoons and Shindoos, none of whom practice tatting.

35. The character of the hill tribes is, I may say, very

The character of the hill tribes.

much dependent on their situation, those further north being far more straight-

forward and truthful than those bordering on the plains, though honesty is characteristic of them all; what distrust and trickiness they have acquired are the result of their past dealings with native officials from the plains, whom they know deceive them, and who consider them fair game to practice that sharpness and ingenuity which a more advanced stage of civilization has conferred on them. There is, however, the other side of the picture, and probably a hillman equals any race in cruelty, while his turbulent, excitable, and hasty nature requires a determined but considerate rule.

36. Nearly all of the cloths worn by the hill population

Most of the tribes grow their own cotton, spin their own cloth, and dye the same.

are woven from cotton grown and spun by them, also dyed with indigo, which to some extent they cultivate.

FOREIGN.

B.—Foreign, or our relations with Tribes beyond the British Frontier, and raids during the year.

37. The trans-frontier or non-tributary tribes residing

Trans-frontier or non-tributary tribes.

without the administrative boundary may be classed as below, according to

their size :—

(1)—The Lushais

(2)—The Shindoos or Pooies.

(3)—The Khyengs

(4)—The Khoons, including a cognate race called "Kongsons,"

38. The relationship which it is enjoined on the Superintendent of Hill Tracts to preserve with these frontier tribes has been detailed in paragraph 6, and it only remains to note how far the policy thus ordered by the Chief Commissioner

has been successful. I shall therefore briefly allude to each of these tribes in the order above given.

39. As regards the Lushais, they are too remote to be brought under any influence from the Arakan side, and since the extensive raid committed by them in 1869 on a village called "Lahawks," near our police post of Dalukmay, they have ceased to annoy us or join directly or indirectly in giving trouble. Doubtless reminiscences of the Lushai expedition at present exercise a healthy influence over them, while moreover since last rains they have had their time fully engaged in warfare with the Toungsat and other clans of Shindoos. Lushai slaves who have been sold from tribe to tribe further south, or given as ransom in order to redeem other slaves, occasionally find their way into the hands of our tributary tribes on the Kooladan.

40. A good deal has been done towards inducing the hitherto almost unknown Shindoos to emerge from their past secluded condition and visit us. Members of the more powerful clans of Yaklaings and Toungsats have this last cold season, come as far as the frontier post of Dalukmay, and even to the head-quarters of the Superintendent. The manner in which the brother of the Shindoo Chief of the Bouk Kyee clan was received and treated on his arrival last year at head-quarters, a sense of the benefit and good that will accrue to them by free access to our salt and trade, together with the consciousness that we intend a strong policy and to suppress raiding, have, all combined, tended to bring us on what is fast approaching to friendly terms with this large and powerful tribe who are interposed between us and Upper Burma. As yet, however, none of the recognized Chiefs have themselves come, but merely missions from them as feelers and with a view of breaking the ice.

41. While too great anxiety has not been manifested to receive our new visitors, they have invariably been treated with kindness on arriving within British territory, and have all left with favorable impressions and promises to repeat their visits. Deputies of the "Yaklaing" clans, moreover, bound themselves by one of their most solemn oaths, for the future not to raid on British subjects, but the past history of hill tribes

The Shindoos or Pooies and the progress made towards opening up communication with them.

The Yaklaing clan of Shindoos have pledged themselves to good behaviour by solemn oath, but no great reliance can be placed on such.

points to the absolute necessity of receiving such promises *quantum valeat*.

42. The reason why in the past we have so completely failed in our endeavours to know more of so powerful a tribe, described by different British subjects taken prisoners in past raids but who have managed to effect their escape, as above 8,000 souls, is chiefly because it has been the interest of others who have represented matters in altogether a false light, to prevent an interview ever coming off, and passively to obstruct the same. Our own tribute-paying Khamie tribes have all more or less some account to settle with the Shindoos for some sanguinary raid or butchery perpetrated in former years, for which "ven-detta" has yet to be obtained, hence their interests also clash with our endeavours to open up friendship with them. Again, the isolated position of the Shindoo tribes from our frontier adds to the difficulty of making much impression on them, for the nearest village is a matter of six days' journey from our present frontier.

43. The wild and savage state of the Shindoo clans, as generally supposed, would appear to be otherwise, for from the same source as that from which all our information is derived about them, viz., their own account of things as corroborated by several of our subjects who have escaped from them, it would appear that many clans dress well, the women wearing long cloths like Arakanese, live in good planked houses, keep riding ponies, and trade a little with the "Yaw" country in Upper Burma, west of the Irrawaddy.

44. As they are divided into several and distinct clans, the more powerful of whom are the "Moung Dus," "Toung-sats," and "Rumpees," who are more or less occupied in aggressive and defensive measures with surrounding tribes, some time will elapse before we can obtain a permanent footing with them.

45. However, my belief is that those clans of their race who have of recent years harassed the Arakan frontier most, viz., the Bouk Kyees and Yaklaings, are now anxious to continue on friendly terms with us, and that they will next year again renew their pledges of peace and friendship.

46. What is paramount for them as also other surrounding independent trans-frontier tribes to realize is, that we

possess the means to punish, and that following in the wake of our bazaars is a good supply of men and ammunition, and that good behaviour on their part will secure for them our friendship. With matters resting on such a basis all should remain well and quiet.

47. The non-tributary Khyengs have, since the location of an active European officer on the Lem-roo, been induced to avail themselves freely of our bazaars and desist from raiding on British villages. On account of their wildness and suspiciousness they require some management. The more remote of their villages are in constant communication with Upper Burma, to which power, within a few miles of our frontier, are Khyeng tribute-paying villages. Hitherto we have chiefly known the Khyengs as a most impracticable race, while the upper portion of their country, watered by that picturesque river, the Lemroo, has been almost an unknown tract, inhabited by tribes of Khyengs,—the Koos and Saydoos—who are almost naked, save a bamboo cane wreathlet round their waists; but within the last year progress has been made in bringing our influence to bear on these non-tributary tribes in question, some of whom pay regular visits to the officer in charge of the Lemroo, and whose intention it is to gradually move within our frontier line.

48. The independent tribe of Koons who, with the Bouk Kyee Shindoos, have of late years raided so extensively across our frontier, are now completely under our influence, and their Chief (Kah Pah), who in 1871 was with the greatest difficulty persuaded to have an interview with me on the frontier, now moves about freely within the district like one of our own tributary Chiefs. His tribe have removed from their old village to nearer our frontier, but still without it, and consequently without British protection. This retreat was forced on the Koons in consequence of having been twice attacked by Shindoos of the Say Bung and Saype clans in December and January last, but they fought well and repulsed the Shindoos, who lost one or two killed on each occasion.

49. Chief Kah Pah is a man, as noted in previous reports, of much influence and well inclined towards us. As long as his intentions are honest he can always control his Koon tribe. The Kongsohs are of the same division as the Koons, and speak nearly the same language. Their conduct during the

year has been good, and they freely patronize our bazaars both on the Northern and Eastern Frontier.

50. From what information has been received regarding the

No marked difference except that of language exists among the trans-frontier tribes, but our knowledge of the Shindoos very scanty.

four divisions of trans-frontier tribes now treated off, there would appear to be no great difference between them and our tributary tribes, but the Shindoo country is one of which as yet we

know little, and forms a portion of the area at present shown as an "undefined" and "unsurveyed" blank on the "topographical map of Eastern Bengal, Burma, and China."

51. The same customs and religion would appear characteristic of all, viz., a vague pantheism in which all nature is connected with spirits and powers which have to be propitiated by offerings of cattle, pigs, fowls, &c., according to the social status of the donor.

Raids generally.

52. I have next to report on the raids and attempts at the same committed.

(1)—On tribute-paying villages *within* the administrative frontier.

(2)—On the more important ones committed by independent tribes on other trans-frontier tribes *without* the frontier.

53. Of raids on tribute-paying villages within the Hill

No raids on tribute-paying villages.

Tracts boundary, I am happy to note that there have been none during the year,

which fortunate result is chiefly attributable to the energy of, and a slight increase to, the police force in our hitherto weakest part, and also to the good and satisfactory relationship existing between our officers and the several non-tributaries on the Northern and Eastern Frontier, who furnish as a rule good and early intelligence of the movements of the remote and more powerful marauding clans.

54. Of raids on non-tribute paying villages there have been more than the previous year. The

Raids without the British boundary.

which, two months

The first raid of the season was to have been on a tribute-paying village, but this programme was upset by the activity displayed by the Mee police under Captain Hotham.

first of importance was one on a village without our line of police posts, within prior to the raid, the Chief of the raided village, one Pein Nway, had been advised and instructed by myself personally to remove, as our police could not protect him. This Chief had been strongly suspected for some months prior to the raid of being a spy of the Shindoos, and his

secluded position some miles from our nearest outpost gave him the opportunity of receiving visits from one of their most marauding clans, viz., the Yaklaings, with whom he was plotting to raid our tribute-paying villages; but as the police on the Mee under Captain Hotham, were too much on the alert, and constantly patrolling in daily expectation of a raid, he could not effect his object, so the Shindoos turned the tables on him by raiding his village, carrying off thirteen persons and killing three. This Chief's fate is not to be pitied, inasmuch as it is now known beyond a doubt that it was he who harboured, while his brother and one "Kortoung," a Mro, since arrested and sentenced to transportation for life (*vide* paragraph 111), piloted the Shindoo war party which raided in 1870 the tribute-paying village of Punwet, within a few miles of the Kooladan police post, carrying off thirty British subjects and killing four, of whom only three have been recovered, though several managed to effect their escape when the Bouk Kyee Shindoos were in 1870 attacked by Lushais, losing sixty of their clan.

55. This Chief "Pein Nway" brought the raid entirely on himself, and has no one else to blame.

56. There have also been three or four retaliatory raids by the Shindoos on Lushais *inter se*, Fighting between the Shindoos and Lushais. but the particulars of which I do not consider sufficiently authentic to justify my recording; the general impression is, that the Shindoos are quite capable of holding their own.

57. The long outstanding bitter feuds which were briefly alluded to in paragraph 47 of last year's Old feuds between the Mros of the Mee and Lemroo Khyengs renewed. report as existing between the Mros of the Mee and the Khyengs of the Lemroo, were again renewed, and the cause of more raids and bloodshed, though confined entirely to tribes *without* our boundary. In one raid last November, the Mros of the Mee attacked a Khyeng village some distance above the upper guard for the second time within the year, killing altogether in both attacks six persons, and carrying off thirty captives.

58. The non-tributary Khyengs burning to retaliate, used all their persuasions and influence to gain the co-operation of our tributary Khyengs of the Upper Lemroo to join them in making a final and joint attack on the trans-frontier Mros, when their intention was to retreat within our boundary, but the influence of our rule has within the last year made such way among the Khyengs that not a tribute-paying subject could join

his non-tributary brethren against the "common foe," so that the non-tributary Khyengs were left to their own resources, which were limited, being few in number, possessing less guns, and unable therefore to return a direct blow. They altered their mode of warfare accordingly, and instead of making an attack on a village, used to remain in ambush for days, and sometimes for weeks, in the neighbourhood of their foes, eventually succeeding in spearing three, and making four Mro prisoners.

59. The manner in which our tributary Khyengs thus resisted the entreaties of their kith and kin to assist them in striking a final retaliatory blow on the trans-frontier tribes of Mros is a practical and, I think, satisfactory illustration of the good our power is exercising on the remote and isolated Lemroo.

Practical proof afforded of the influence which is being gained over the Khyengs.

60. The Chief Commissioner was pleased to sanction towards the close of the official year, my visiting these tribes of Mros and Khyengs residing *without* our boundary, with a view of amicably settling, if possible, these old feuds, checking somewhat for the future these butcheries, and personally seeing the raided Chiefs and raiders. The chief objects aimed at were, after a month's absence, secured, and, I think, raids and reprisals of the above description, between our adjoining non-tributaries on the Eastern Frontier, will be less frequent, if not entirely ended, as the raided Khyengs have now promised to come *within* our frontier line, and with the Mros have also jointly guaranteed the return of the captives to one another, and to take an oath to remain at peace for the future. I was fortunate in meeting with every attention on the road, and have been visited since at head-quarters by the Chiefs of both the hostile clans.

61. The Khyengs are quite the Ishmaelites of these hills, Sanguinary character of for it may be truly said of them that the Khyengs. their hand is against every one and every one's hand against them. Khamies, Mros, and Shindoos all detest them with a bitter hatred, for the Khyengs when they can muster a successful war party, are the most cruel and relentless of foes. In one raid alone at the end of 1870, on our tribute-paying village of "Mankun," they only took four captives, but *killed* on the spot 12 Mros.

62. The above form the more important events going on among our non-tributaries, and the result is, that there is now and will be an influx of outside tribes to within and

adjoining our frontier, and though the move is gradual it is all coming to this end. The chief reasons which at present more or less influence our trans-frontier tribes in remaining outside the frontier line are,—

The chief reasons which influence our independent tribes in residing without our frontier.

- (1)—They have generally some raid to take “vendetta” for before retreating within our line.
- (2)—They know that war captives taken by them in raids will be returned to their relatives on their claiming them once they remove within British territory.
- (3)—The hill tribes of this division generally, and the Khyengs in particular, are much attached to their old land-marks and jhooms. Moreover, good land for jhoom cultivation within our frontier, and which we can protect, is yearly becoming less, hence unless compelled they hang on as long as they can to the land of their forefathers.

63. Of attempts at raids beyond the one on the Khoons by the Rumpee Shindoos, referred to in paragraph 48, there are none to record during 1873-74, either within or without our boundary.

64. Several slaves have been set at liberty during the year from among the three classes, which for the sake of clearness, I have divided into —

- (1)—War captives or those taken in raids.
- (2)—Debtor-slaves in lieu of satisfaction of debt, by which the person becomes the menial of the creditor until his liabilities are liquidated.
- (3) Slaves who have become so voluntarily, or made over as slaves by their relatives in default of payment of debts lost in gambling.

As regards the first class, nine have been recovered during the year, of whom four were British subjects taken as captives by Shindoo raiders in attacks committed in the Chittagong Hill Tracts about four years ago, on villages in the “Sungoo” Sub-division, and who had been sold to our tribute-paying clans; they have *all* been made over to their relatives. Four more subjects of His Majesty the King of Burma, who had been taken from the Loungshai Township in Upper Burma by wild Khyengs, and sold to our Lemroo Khyengs, have also been restored to their relatives. In some instances there are war captives as slaves among our tributary tribes, whose condition

it has been impossible to ameliorate, and who have consequently been left in *statu quo*; thus there are several throughout the hills who have been slaves from almost their infancy, and who, oblivious of, or having survived most of their relatives, have become part and parcel of the family household. Often they did not even know who their parents were. In such cases interference would be as cruel as it would be impolitic. Debtor-slaves require much caution before a release is granted, as this relict of the Mosaic law among the wild tribes has been in vogue from time immemorial as satisfaction of debt, and it will require time before we can expect that the substitute we offer them for it, in the shape of our Civil Code, and to them its complex procedure, can or will be viewed as an approved alternative by the aborigines. Even in adjusting the West India slave trade compensation had to be awarded the owners of slaves. It is very necessary in such cases to discriminate between when a debtor slave *asks* for his release (when of course one is bound to take action), and doing so or allowing other subordinates *suo motu* to do so. As to the third class of slaves, I have carefully made a practice of releasing them whenever practicable, so as to place every possible discount on gambling.

In many instances interference by the police in slave cases only productive of evil.

65. In short, both considerable caution and deliberation is necessary before taking the initiative in any case of slavery, and each case should be disposed of on its merits; otherwise the best intentioned philanthropist may work much mischief, simultaneously believing that he is alleviating human suffering, and may, further than this, also estrange a new, wild, and impulsive race of people from him.

Under all circumstances to deal with slave cases is a difficult and delicate subject, requiring much caution and care.

66. It cannot be deemed of too great importance to endeavour to find out where captives taken in recent raids by non-tributaries are disposed of, for if they should be sold to our tributaries, as has hitherto been often the case, and quick restoration to their relatives effected, a great blow is struck at the trade, for an adult man or woman slave sells for from Rs. 200 to Rs. 300, according to her or his physical capacities, which of course is thereby lost to the purchaser.

The importance of endeavouring to find out where war captives taken in raids are disposed of.

67. The gist of this most important head of the report is, therefore, that no raids have occurred within our tribute-paying villages of the Hill Tracts during the year, neither has a single British subject been retained as a captive. That also the relationship existing between us and the trans-frontier tribes, regarded on the whole, is satisfactory and encouraging, and that our influence is steadily extending itself.

C.—DOMESTIC.

68. The total population of the district for the past year, exclusive of the police force, was 12,359 souls, and the following table exhibits the numbers of the several tribes within the boundaries, and the proportion of males to females:—

Detailed classification of races.	Males.	Females.	Total.
European ...	4	...	4
Chyoungthas ...	680	619	1,299
Arakanese ...	84	65	149
Khamies ...	3,664	3,292	6,956
Mros ...	1,078	973	2,051
Anoos ...	14	13	27
Chins or Khyengs...	807	776	1,583*
Chaws or Kukies ...	113	107	220
Burmese ...	16	13	29
Muniporeans ...	5	1	6
Shindoos ...	2	...	2
Siam or Shans ...	21	12	33
Total ...	<u>6,488</u>	<u>5,871</u>	<u>12,359</u>

69. From this table it will be observed that the Khamie division forms the great mass of the population. In the report for 1870-71, their number was computed at about 3,000 souls, but an increased knowledge of, and acquaintance with them, shows it to be close on 7,000. The Khyengs who in 1872 were supposed not to number more than 500 souls, have been

* According to population report 1,098 Khyengs only were shown, but at the time owing to an epidemic of small-pox, no approximate number of the population could be taken; it has since been done, and the result shows an increase of 485 souls over that given in population report.

found by Mr. Porter to be close on 2,000, for there still exist four villages of their clan who, though within our frontier, have as yet paid no tribute. They will considerably swell the aggregate of population in next year's returns.

70. I have taken considerable trouble to obtain more accurate returns of population than heretofore, and believe that the numbers now given of each division of hillmen, save the Khyengs, may be relied on. The preponderance of males over females, which is noticeable to some extent with the Khamies, can be satisfactorily explained, when a retrospect is taken of the hard and arduous life involving great physical endurance which they lead from a tender age until their death, while the fact should not also be lost sight of that, in past raids, for every man carried off nearly three women have. I believe that the scarcity of women in proportion to males is characteristic not alone of the Khamies, but of all the wild tribes of Arakan, including the Shindoos.

71. The agency employed in collecting the general returns of population and revenue is that of Chyoungokes, who correspond with the Thoogyees of Burma.

72. The population is slowly increasing, and the quiet and safety now enjoyed by all generally conduced to this end. A few immigrants and removal of villages formerly *without* our frontier to *within*, have, with the causes above noted, also helped to increase the hill population to the large extent shown below within the last three years:—

Total of Population.				
1870-71	...	...	...	7,062
1873-74	...	...	...	12,359
Increase				<u>5,297</u> souls.

73. Almost the whole of the population are jhoom or toungya cultivators. They cut down a

Cultivation of the hill tribes is of two descriptions.

piece of rich forest land in January, which, by the end of April, under the hot rays of a Burmese sun, has become almost as combustible as powder, fire the same, and on the rich soil formed from the ashes of burnt timber or bamboos sow, at the commencement of the rains, a miscellaneous crop of cotton, paddy, pumpkins, melons, and other vegetables. On the termination of the rains the hillmen turn their attention from the highlands to the lowlands, formed by the rich alluvial deposits of the rivers and streams, and plant out,

broadcast, tobacco and indigo. Thus, during the year they are more or less engaged in two distinct methods of cultivation.

74. The increase of tobacco cultivation in the Hill Tracts is of much importance, especially as the tobacco has on analysis been so well reported on. The alluvial soil producing it is likewise so rich as to require no rotation of crops.

The increase of tobacco cultivation, and the favourable report on hill tobacco which is still open to much improvement in the method of curing.

Mr. Broughton, the Government Quinologist, Madras, writes thus regarding it:—"As desired in G. O. Revenue, No. 22 of 8th January 1874, I have the honor to report on a sample of tobacco received, which was grown in a hill district in Northern Arakan. The tobacco yielded 23.45 per cent. ash. This ash contained 8.59 per cent. of potassic carbonate. By determination the tobacco was found to contain 1.95 per cent. of nicotine. These results show that the tobacco contains these important constituents in amount closely resembling those which are the most favourite tobaccos of European smokers, or the Havanna, and Manilla tobaccos of the English market. The kind of tobacco of which the sample consists is not stated, but I should believe it to be one of the American varieties. It is well cured and good smoking, but has a peculiar flavour, far less perceptible when made into cheroots than when smoked in a pipe. A slightly more continued fermentation would, I believe, present the flavour. Like all the tobaccos I have received from British Burma, its qualities are most encouraging, and show that its site of growth will produce tobacco quite worthy of export. The sample sent is worth sending to the home market." I think much good would accrue were a person who understood the art of

An improved method of curing could be easily imported to the Hill Tribes.

curing the tobacco deputed to the hills, with a view of imparting more knowledge on the subject to the hillmen, who, fettered by no caste pride or prejudice, are docile to an extreme, and quick at picking up anything, especially if they see that the object is gain to their pocket.

75. An approximate return of the tobacco under cultivation was taken by me during the year, and I am safely within the mark when I give it as over 3,500 acres.

Approximate area of tobacco under cultivation.

76. At present it finds only a local sale, though I am sanguine that it will before long be introduced in other parts

of India, if not Europe, but to this end improved curing is necessary, as at present it is exported in too coarse and rough a state. As a rule the people are aware of the advantage of drying the same in the shade. It now sells from about £1 to £1 10s. a maund of 80lbs. according to quality, length of leaf, &c.

Price of tobacco leaf
per maund of 80lbs.

77. A small sample of Cuba and Havanna tobacco seed sent me from Rangoon, turned out exceedingly good, and the soil and climate of these hills would appear from the size of the plants and leaf grown, to be especially adapted to this class of exotic seed. Several of the leaves measured three feet by one, and there was on all sides a general demand for the seed.

78. The cotton grown in the hills commanded a good local sale this year. "Kuppas" or uncleaned cotton, ranged in price from 8s. to 9s. a maund of 80lbs, but heavy showers late in the season (in November) injured to a great extent the young pods, and the outturn was much less than last year, which is, however, more than compensated for by the excellent tobacco crops of this season. About 7,000 to 8,000 maunds of raw cotton were exported, and its cultivation is being extended.

Cotton and price.

79. Some Egyptian and Broach cotton seed were sent me by the Horticultural Society of Rangoon to experimentalize with in June last, and both turned out a great success, though the boles are not so large, neither is the yield of plant nearly so great as the indigenous cotton sown by the hillmen, but in length of staple and facility in cleaning the seed, the Egyptian and Broach are very superior to the hill plant, which is moreover only an annual.

Egyptian and Broach
cotton seed turned out
very good, but inferior to
the indigenous cotton
plant in yield and size
of bole.

80. I asked for more seed of both varieties, and three bags, were despatched in January, but all, I am sorry to say, turned out bad; I had, however, saved some seed from the first lot, which allowed of my distributing a little to a few villages.

81. It would appear, however, not to be of very great advantage to attempt at once too much with the exotic seed, as long as the indigenous cotton commands a fair market, as also such favorable remarks as the Secretary to the Chamber of Commerce, Bombay, passed on a sample I sent in 1872.

Indigenous cotton com-
mands a fair price.

82. The teak seed which I commenced to plant out in the district last year has turned out to be finer in growth and size than I had even anticipated, and there are scattered throughout the hills near 14,000 teak plants, several of which though only planted a year back, are 8, while a few are even 12 feet high. A Shan colony who, aided by a tuccavee advance of Rs. 300, immigrated to the hills, lead the way by planting out about 10,000.

The soil and climate of these hills wonderfully well adapted to teak.

83. The police, who in the rains have not much to do, assist also in forming nurseries, and work of this nature helps to keep them out of mischief. A commencement has been made also in the Lemroo to get the Khyengs to take to the cultivation of teak and cotton, and I hope Mr. Porter will be able to report favorably next year on the results.

84. Some more teak seed will on arrival be distributed to the hillmen, and hereafter what is now planted will, it is hoped, become a grand source of wealth to the Hill Tracts.

85. What all the hillmen are now anxious to know is the amount that Government will give for trees of five years' growth. The amount, I understand, named by the Conservator of Forests, Rangoon, as that which would be remunerative for the State to give for a fairly stocked acre of teak of five years' growth is insufficient to stimulate the hillmen pushing on the cultivation, or taking so much interest in it as I would wish to see, being hardly an anna a tree.

86. A native officer was sent over by the Forest Department to examine the timber, &c., in these parts, who reported the existence of a good quantity of good useful timber. The question of working which and so adding to our revenue, is engaging, I believe, the attention of the Department.

87. The whole amount of revenue, excluding miscellaneous, derived from the district this year, has increased. Amount of revenue was Rs. 4,130, which shows an increase of Rs. 602 over that of the preceding year. This is chiefly consequent on a larger population being shown to exist, and also through three villages which formerly were trans-frontier and paid no tribute, having moved to within our frontier line, and thus become tributary.

88. Revenue is now strictly collected within our boundaries, and the several items comprising the sum total are shown in the comparative statement for the years 1872-73 and 1873-74 as below, but revenue for the present is not considered of much importance.

		Collection of 1872-73.	Collection of 1873-74.	Increase.	Decrease.
		Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
Land revenue	...	153	235	82	...
Toungya	...	607	653	46	...
Capitation tax	...	1,337	1,611	274	...
Tribute	...	1,431	1,631	200	...
Miscellaneous	...	474	389	...	85
Total	...	4,002	4,519	602	85
Net increase	...	...	...	517	...

89. The highest items of tax throughout these hills is Rs. 3 a family, paid by some hill races, while the lowest is Re. 1, which is paid by others. A special report, as called for, was submitted on the incidence of taxation, which is now before the Chief Commissioner, and will, if the suggestions contained therein are sanctioned, place matters on a more equable system, and one which an altered condition of things to that which prevailed when the present system was introduced calls for.

90. As remarked in my report for last year, I have in historical researches of matters appertaining to Arakan and its tribes, come across official documents under the seal of the old Arakanese Government awarding to different clans distinct boundaries within which they might settle and cultivate.

91. This right is still respected by some of the tribes who pay tribute for the privilege of cultivating within the prescribed land-marks of another clan, in the shape of pigs or cattle, and occasionally by a percentage on the crops. The Lemroo Khyengs and some clans of Chyoungthas methodically enforce this right over the surrounding villages.

92. There is no revenue derived from excise, and all the liquor consumed by the hillmen at their feasts, &c., is prepared by them, any interference with which would be generally resented.

JUDICIAL.

93. There were two judicial officers throughout the year, both exercising civil and criminal powers, viz., the Superintendent and Assistant Superintendent of Hill Tribes.

94. The office of Superintendent was held throughout the year by Captain W. Gwynne Hughes, Madras Staff Corps, and Deputy Commissioner of the 4th grade, British Burma; that of Assistant Superintendent was held by a native named Nga Bouk Kay, throughout the year.

95. The Superintendent of Hill Tracts' powers correspond with those of a District Magistrate and Collector. Under Section 35 of Act X of 1872 he can also try all cases under the Indian Penal Code, but those punishable with death.

96. The Assistant Superintendent of Hill Tracts exercises in criminal matters the powers of a Magistrate of the 3rd class, and in civil, the powers of a Court of the 4th grade, as defined in Act I of 1861.

97. The district is not divided into sub-divisions. The area over which the two Courts exercise jurisdiction is computed at about 1,213 square miles, with a population, including officials and police, of near 13,000. The furthest village from a Court-house is 70 miles, and the average distance of villages about 30.

98. The salary of Superintendent is, according to his substantive rank in the Burma Commission, with the special allowance of Rs. 200 a month. The salary of the Assistant Superintendent is Rs. 100 a month, with travelling allowance when absent on duty. The total cost of the tribunals for the year was Rs. 13,888.

CIVIL JUSTICE.

99. The following table shows the number of cases instituted and decided on the civil side during the year 1873, as compared with the previous year.

NAME AND DESIGNATION OF OFFICER.	INSTITUTION.		DISPOSED OF.	
	1872.	1873.	1872.	1873.
Captain W. G. Hughes, Superintendent of Hill Tribes ...	14	18	14	18
Nga Bouk Kay, Assistant Superintendent of Hill Tribes ...	14	23	14	23
Total ...	28	41	28	41
Increase ...	...	13	...	13

Nature of suits.

100. All of the suits but one were of a nature cognizable by a Court of

Small Causes.

101. As many cases as can be which occur among hill-

Civil cases whenever practicable referred to Chiefs for arbitration, but the results of the awards made have to be carefully watched.

men, are referred to their own Chiefs for decision, subject to the approval of the Superintendent, or else the Superintendent assisted by one or two influential Chiefs, after hearing the merits of

the case, passes orders on the same. There is still a tendency—an absurd illustration of which (surpassing almost the trial by ordeal followed by our forefathers) I gave in paragraph 77 of my report for last year—on the part of hillmen to, in disputed cases, resort to some of their meaningless usages which still exercise a strong fascination in their mind, and consequently the result of any award passed by them has to be watched.

102. One usage among several which the majority of

Partiality displayed by tribes for their old customs.

them strongly incline to is, to award as interest on money lent double the principal irrespective of time, and if the

same cannot be paid, to receive in satisfaction a slave.

103. The increase by thirteen suits on the civil side over

Increase of suits would tend to show that the hillmen are not averse to coming to Court for redress.

the same of last year would tend to show that the justice meted out to them is not unpopular, and that they, when occasion requires, freely resort

to the Courts.

104. No pleaders have been employed in the hills during the year, much to the good of the hill population.
 No pleaders employed in suits.

105. As laid down in the provisional rules, the Procedure of the Indian Penal and Criminal Procedure Codes, as also that of the Civil Code is followed as far as possible by the Superintendent, though he is not bound by these codes. The usages and customs of the hill races are strictly conformed to, as long as the same are not inconsistent with morality or equity.
 District Court is not bound by the Procedure Codes.

106. To render our Courts and procedure efficient and popular, it is desirable to deal with disputes among the aborigines quickly and patriarchally rather than pay too much attention to the prescribed routine of our Civil Code; without the slightest knowledge of writing, and altogether uneducated, the procedure and formula required by our regulation Courts would be so much Greek or Algebra to the hill man, and place him at the mercy of natives, thus rendering him unmanageable, and apt to take the law into his own hands.
 The procedure and formula of our codes must for some time remain a sealed-book to the hill tribes.

107. The question of a code for the administration of these tracts being still before Government, the subject requires no further remarks from me, beyond expressing the interest with which I anticipate its scope and measures.
 The code for the administration of the Hill Tracts District still pending.

CRIMINAL JUSTICE.

108. The following statement shows the total number of offences reported during the year, and the number brought to trial and convicted as compared with the previous one :—
 Offences during the year.

YEAR.				No. of offences reported.	No. of persons under trial during the year.	Convicted.
1872	...	...	...	41	68	46
1873	...	...	...	37	53	35
Decrease				4	15	11
Increase				...	...	...

109. The following comparative statement shows the amount of fines levied and amount realized for the respective years 1872 and 1873 :—

YEAR.						Total amount of fines levied.	Amount realized.
						Rs.	Rs.
1872	...	...	...	...	...	516	278
1873	...	...	...	...	...	655	295
Increase						139	17
Decrease						...	...

110. With the exception of one murder, no violent crime occurred within our boundaries during the year, and an attempt by a few designing outlaws to create a re-action was quickly stamped out. The particulars were as follows :—Mr. Assistant Superintendent of Police Hannay

No violent crime except one murder committed during the year in the Hill District. An attempt by some outlaws to get up a re-action quickly suppressed and criminals arrested.

received information that a clever native from the plains, who, through his connection, was supposed to possess much influence, had collected together a number of hillmen and a few Shans with the object of raiding a wealthy zemindar on the Chittagong side. Some-outlaws (hillmen), for murder and kidnapping in 1871, who had escaped to the trans-frontier tribes, also joined, but before anything could come of it, a number of police on the Kooladan were turned out, and both the leader and one of the outlaws were arrested by the police under Mr. Budge, assisted by hillmen. The leader was sentenced for attempt at dacoity by my Court to five years' rigorous imprisonment, and the outlaws named Dansow, together with another named Zadway (subsequently arrested), were committed to the Session's Court charged with double murder and kidnapping in 1871. The trial was held in Akyab, and both were sentenced to death. The last sentence of the law was carried out at Palukwan, the headquarters of the district, amidst a large assembly of influential Chiefs and hill people. It was the first instance in which

Khamies had ever within the present generation been hanged

The sentence of capital punishment passed on two Khamies, and carried out in the Hill Tracts, will exercise a most salutary effect for the future.

as also the *first* in which the sentence had been carried out in their own hills, and so far from any sympathy being shown for the culprits, there was on the contrary a general expression of approval of the punishment meted out to them. On the day of execution I was anxious to see the result, which I may say was most satisfactory, as it showed a general feeling on the part of the people present to side with order and justice. The relatives of the deceased were permitted to carry off the bodies.

111. Shortly after this another outlaw of Hill Tracts

Another rather celebrated Hill Tracts outlaw captured and sentenced to death, which was subsequently converted into transportation for life on case being remanded, by Judicial Commissioner.

celebrity, named "Kortoung," who was one of the leaders on the raid by Shindoos and Khoons on Punwet* village, near the Kooladan police post in 1870, was also arrested, committed to the Sessions Court of Arakan, and sentenced to death; a new trial was, however, ordered by the Judicial Commissioner, and the sentence awarded was transportation for life.

112. Thus, of the 53 persons shown in the table as brought to trial, four were committed to the Sessions Court and tried in Akyab with the result as below—

Two hillmen sentenced to death.

Two ditto transportation for life,

and the Hill Tracts were freed of three desperate and troublesome criminals who had hitherto evaded justice by absconding to the trans-frontier tribes of Khoons and Anoos, who *latterly* would have nothing more to say to them.

113. While thus the action of the executive has been chiefly confined to past violent crime,

Past violent crime has been successfully detected, and the perpetrators of it brought to justice.

and that before the new administrative measures were introduced, it has also been successful in reducing present crime to a minimum, and proving to the hillmen, who had sadly and long needed such proof, that human life must be respected.

114. A marked feature in the character of the hillmen has also developed itself in their ready co-operation towards the arrest of the criminals above referred to, and shows that

* *Vide* Proceeding paragraph 54 for particulars of this raid.

if properly worked, they will actively assist in the arrest of their fellows, for through their agency, more or less guided by the prompt action of Mr. Hannay, were the arrests above noticed made, and with such fortunate results for the future well-being and quiet of the district.

115. Liberal rewards were given for the capture of these outlaws, and those hillmen who took the most active part have been enlisted as paid scouts. The only fear they express is, that when new officers come, the relatives of the outlaws may take "vendetta," but the best has been done to allay their fears.

116. In the case of each of the three men (Kortoung, Dansow and Zadway) who committed murder as well as kidnapping, the primary cause of their taking to a criminal career was the effects of gambling and to make good money lost at play, which only further illustrates the correctness of my previous views, as to the necessity of putting down gambling with a strong hand in these hills, if quiet is to be secured.

117. If it has been found necessary among civilized and educated races to put the machinery of the law to work in order to restrain gambling and check crime, it appears very conclusive and of the first importance, to apply the same principles to an uncivilized and reckless people, whose passions are as wild as they are strong, and who attach little importance to human life. Such being my firm impression, I have done my best to check gambling, which, imparted from the civilized plains, was once rampant in these hills, and I am glad to report that it has very much decreased.

POLICE.

118. The Superintendent of Hill Tracts is *Ex-officio* Superintendent of Police.

119. Sanction was received towards the end of 1873 for the entertainment of an additional Inspector and 16 men, which allowed of a new guard being located on the east bank of the Kooladan, which had been

Superintendent of Hill Tracts is also *Ex-officio* Superintendent of Police.

Sanction was during the year received for a slight increase to force.

pointed out by me, and events somewhat proved to be our weakest point, for over an area of some hundred square miles there was not a single guard. The position of the new guard was on the old raiding paths of the Shindoos, and the result has well justified the measure, as during the year not an attempt has been made at raiding a portion of the Hill Tracts, which hitherto has been more exposed and probably more raided than any other. Protected by the new guard cultivation has also increased, and will continue to do so, in parts where people were before afraid to resort to. The same guard was also strengthened by withdrawing ten men from the frontier post of Dalukmay.

120. I am glad to be able to report that the *materièl* of the force is much improved to what it was in 1871, when few could be found to join it other than lazy opium-smoking Arakanese, and still more useless Bengallees, who could find employment nowhere else, never worked, would not or could not patrol the raiding paths unless forced by their officers, and in short, to quote the official report on them a short time before by Mr. St. John, "afforded the minimum of effectiveness."

121. The composition of the present force is shown by a glance at the table below. The Ghoorkas especially and Maniporees are efficient and strong, march well, and never grumble, making it a pleasure to serve with them, and what is also of great consequence, pull well together with the hill-men of these parts. None have, however, since the Government orders on the subject were received from the Chief Commissioner, been enlisted in Nepal:—

Europeans	...	...	...	2
Chyongthas	...	...	...	20
Khamies	...	...	...	51
Khyengs	...	...	...	4
Maniporees	...	...	...	33
Raja Bunshees	...	...	...	29
Arakanese	...	...	...	25
Burmese	...	...	...	1
Ghoorkas and Tipperahs	...	...	...	74
Mahomedans	...	...	...	2
Hindoos	...	...	...	15
Total				256*

* Including one Assistant Superintendent of Police:

122. Seventy-five inhabitants of the country, inclusive of Chyounghthas, as the above table shows, are in the force, and this proves I think clearly that at present Government work is commencing to be appreciated by the hillmen, while the services of many more could be obtained, were it not that the Chief Commissioner's directions on the subject have to be carefully borne in mind, viz., "that hillmen should be enlisted cautiously." As it is, the precaution of supplementing them by a strong foreign element, has been carried out.

123. Placing fewer restrictions on the Hill police than on the rest of the force, and dispensing with much of the drill routine, also working them under European officers as much as possible, and promising that they should not be sent to the plains, have conduced to make the work so popular, that were it considered politic the entire strength could be raised from the Khamies, who there is little doubt in time, and under European supervision, could be rendered very effective.

124. It requires strong and hardy men to stand the climate and work incidental to the police of this frontier, and it is satisfactory to note that the force have done all that has been required of them well and contentedly.

125. Some trouble has been taken to render it, as was intended, a quasi-body of soldiers, and as such it commands some confidence among the hill tribes. Police duties in the ordinary acceptance of the term, beyond patrolling, they have little to perform. Their primary work is to suppress internal raids and repel external.

126. The 100 carbine rifles which in 1872 were supplied, being light and portable, have much contributed in rendering the men more efficient, and they have been made so to arrange their accoutrements and baggage, &c., as to be able to make six days' march without taking coolies, which before they could not manage.

127. The European element comprises two officers only, one Officiating Assistant Superintendent of Police (Mr. Hannay), who has been stationed at Dalukmay, on the Northern

Frontier, while the other (Mr. Inspector Porter) has been exclusively in charge of the Lemroo throughout the year, with his head-quarters at the upper guard.

128. Both officers have worked well and zealously, while the men generally have done good service.

PUBLIC BUILDINGS.

129. In addition to the public buildings completed last year at head-quarters, viz., a substantial Court-house, private house, and lock-up, quarters for the Assistant Superintendent of Police were also completed up at Dalukmay.

All public buildings but magazine completed and occupied.

130. The whole of these were erected for Rs. 5,200 only, and were completed without the aid of the Department of Public Works. Nearly all the timber used was obtained in these hills.

131. I regret to say that the magazine, ordered by the Chief Commissioner's scheme to be erected at head-quarters, has not yet been commenced; when finished it will complete all the buildings.

TRADE AND BAZAARS.

132. There has been some dissatisfaction among the hill tribes generally during this season, consequent on the high rates of rice in the plains, which have been unprecedentedly high on account of the Bengal famine.

High prices of rice during the year tells hardly on the hill population.

133. As pointed out in previous reports, the hill tribes finding the cultivation of cotton and tobacco so much more profitable than rice, have to import the latter, hence any abnormal state in the rice market seriously affects them, and the little available this year (as most of the grain found its way to Akyab) was very high in price.

A large quantity of rice has yearly to be imported, as sufficient for home consumption is not grown in the hill.

134. Fortunately their last year's crops were fair, otherwise there would have been some distress.

135. In other respects free trade, which is however carefully watched as much with a view of protecting the hillmen from being cheated by traders as of preventing the latter bringing up opium or ammunition, allows of the hillman purchasing all his requirements, such as salt, fish, orna-

Free trade has to be watched.

ments in brass and copper, clothing and apparel, from trading boats alongside of their villages. These articles form with cattle, which are purchased by the tribes for their feasts, the chief imports. That important staff of life to the hillman—salt, is imported to a large extent by trading boats from the Ramree District. One native trader, an Arakanese, who had been making large purchases of cotton from hill villages on our Northern Frontier, was cleverly detected by Mr. Hannay in palming off a good deal of counterfeit coin on the ignorant hillmen, and was sentenced by me to seven years' rigorous imprisonment, converted into transportation. There is every reason for believing that the man formed one of a nest of coiners in the Akyab District, and it is such unprincipled scoundrels that do so much mischief to the trade which our best efforts are concentrated on in developing; hence it has to be closely watched.

136. The chief exports are cotton, tobacco, sessamum seed, ivory and bamboos.

137. The export season in tobacco commences in June ending in August, and in cotton from December to March.

138. The steady yearly increase in both of these exports has to some extent, I believe, affected the import trade of Akyab in them. The Collector of Customs, Akyab, alluded to the decrease in the import trade of both, and doubtless the large local sale that hill cotton and tobacco find in Arakan, may be assumed as one of the reasons. Both

for cotton and tobacco sent to the Akyab Agriculture Show prizes were awarded, amounting to Rs. 200 in all, which the Chief Commissioner was pleased to sanction for products exhibited from this district.

139. The bazaars which were opened upon the Northern and Eastern Frontier, including the Lemroo, have been freely resorted to, and if not abused, nor advantage taken of the ignorance of the people by the traders, are a very great boon to the surrounding tribes. The articles chiefly in vogue with the hill tribes are salt, fish, beads and tin utensils. I was particularly struck with the way in which the tribes on the Lemroo were commencing to avail themselves of the bazaar established last year at the higher guard; for salt, beads, &c. they barter chiefly rice. Mr. Porter is making progress in

Imports.

Tobacco and cotton season.

The yearly increasing export trade from the hills in tobacco and cotton probably accounts for the decrease of the same in the import trade at the Akyab port.

Bazaars on the frontier very much appreciated by the surrounding tribes.

opening out some trade in those parts, which, owing to the wildness of the Khyengs and the insecurity to life and property, when there was no European supervision there, was in 1871 almost *nil*.

HEALTH.

140. The year under review has not been at all a healthy one; and besides an epidemic of small-pox on the Lemroo, there has been a good deal of mortality during the year, more so it is said than for some years previous. It is difficult to assign any reason, and searching for one leads only to conjecture; but much is, I think, attributable to the villages being located on the banks of rivers and in valleys, instead of as once they were, on the high hills.

141. A good and efficient Medical Officer for the district will doubtless be a great boon and arrest many cases of disease, to cure which the hill people now resort to quacks, &c.

142. The epidemic of small-pox commenced on the Lemroo last December, and lasted until March, resulting in about 30 deaths. I wrote at once to the Commissioner for a vaccinator, who was despatched quickly, and arrived at a very opportune time among the Khyengs, as he succeeded in vaccinating 137 persons.

143. This was the first time vaccination had been practiced on the Lemroo, and the readiness with which the hill tribes agreed, after a little persuasion, to be operated on, points out the good that would accrue by a native vaccinator being sent up every cold season. In past years villages have been ravaged by small-pox, and in three villages alone to the north-west of Palukwan some years back, fifty hillmen died of this disease. Such epidemics have unquestionably contributed their quota towards producing a sparse population, and free vaccination will be a very great blessing to all the hill tribes.

144. A nice little dispensary has been erected, but owing to the want of an efficient Medical Officer its success has been almost *nil*. A Native Doctor was in charge throughout the year, who was more or less sick the whole time, and for all practical purposes next to useless. It will be no easy matter to obtain a Medical Officer for these hills unless he is well paid for so unhealthy a charge.

145. An Apothecary, Mr. Reid, has since arrived, who will supply a want which, in such an unhealthy climate, all have much felt, and if he becomes acquainted with the language, will, I am sure, exercise much influence over the surrounding tribes. I only trust he will keep his health now that we have at last secured him.

146. The hillmen have not the slightest knowledge of medicine, and if offerings to the spirits fail in curing the disease, they resort to quacks. A few days back I was much amused with an old Chief who had been to the plains to cure what appeared from the symptoms to be simply indigestion. He said his medico was a female, and she successfully managed to clear from his stomach sundry skins of Sambre and bullocks which some enemy had bewitched into him. On remarking what a fortunate man he was to survive the operation, he replied that that was not all, but that the same good lady had managed to cure one of his friends from deafness by taking stones out of his ear, though, when the operation was being performed, it was a *sine qua non* that the patient should not be allowed to look up, and was simply cured by being blown on in the region of the ear, when lo! out of the *mouth* of the performer came three pebbles. The old man related this with the greatest gravity, and said he had paid Rs. 5 for being rid of this "miscellaneous assortment of leather," and had further travelled 100 miles to be thus humbugged. Time will change when our dispensary is in full swing.

147. The climate of the Hill Tracts, now a trying and unhealthy one, consequent on the manner in which our men are located on the banks of rivers and in valleys, might be rendered far more salubrious by placing our posts inland and on high ground. From November until the middle of March the weather is charming, though the range of the thermometer from February until end of May is rather high, ranging between 54° and 96° from 6 A. M. to 4 P. M., and trying. To retain ones health the usual motto of "low living and high thinking" should certainly not be adopted, for a generous diet is absolutely essential. In May violent storms, with the wind blowing from every point, occur before the south-west monsoon is ushered in, followed by steady rain until October.

148. Perhaps it is necessary to show why, if the highlands are so far healthier, the hillmen should have selected the river banks to live on. The reply to this is chiefly because they know that few trans-frontier tribes can swim or will cross water above their knees in depth, and also if raids threaten where the water is shallow, they have moored in the deep pools rafts on which they are safe. The facilities for obtaining the necessaries of life have also something to say to it.

149. Now that a Medical Officer has arrived, a commencement will be made to record meteorological observations will be recorded. Meteorological observations, &c, Instruments have been written for, and the result will be interesting.

POLITICAL.

150. The progress made towards opening out communication with the Shindoos and other trans-frontier tribes, and also the satisfactory relations that have during the year been maintained with hitherto the most troublesome, have been recorded, and I can only add a hope that the ice having in this respect been broken, the future will produce good results.

151. There being no recognized native territory dividing the Hill Tracts of Arakan from British territory, and there being no boundary pillar, the orders of Government No. 1758, dated August 21st, 1871, would not appear to apply to this portion of British Burma.

152. No legislative enactment was extended to the hills during the year. The question of a code for their administration is still pending. It is uncertain what Acts are and what are not at present in force.

153. The instructions of the Chief Commissioner as passed on last year's report, to the effect that the Superintendent "should endeavour to train up from among the inhabitants of the country those who are likely to assist him in maintaining order," have as shown been carried out, and in the administration of the district I am ably assisted by five or six of the most influential Chiefs, who receive pay. The European element consists only of myself and two officers of police.

MISCELLANEOUS:

154. During the year the old Extra Assistant Commissioner of these hills, Ookazan, who for good services on this frontier had received the distinction of a gold "Tsalwai" or chain, at the hands of the late Viceroy (His Excellency the Earl of Mayo) died. His gradual breaking up had long been evident, and he did not live long to enjoy the pension which he was recommended for.

Death of Extra Assistant Commissioner Ookazan.

155. The Officiating Inspector-General of Police made a rapid tour inspecting all the posts and men of the force, but the Lemroo and Pee guards, in January last.

156. I was enabled during the year of report to inspect and visit the whole of the Hill Tracts but the Peedoung, and went over a good deal of country, where no English officer had been before. Everywhere I was welcomed and hospitably treated, and my tours were the means of imparting to me much information and an acquaintance with a part of the country I had hitherto known nothing of. The Northern Frontier having an Assistant Superintendent in immediate charge of it throughout the year, did not as much as other parts call for my presence.

Result of Superintendent's inspection during the year.

157. In August last I had to leave sick for Akyab with fever after nine month's permanent residence in the hills.

158. The climate will always be, as I have shown, unhealthy and injurious, as long as we retain our posts on the banks of rivers, but I have great hopes of seeing a fine range within a night's journey of the present head-quarters called the Kyouk-pin-doung, referred to in paragraph 12, utilized as a sanitarium. Strategically it commands and is nearly the centre of the district. In old records it is alluded to as the city east of "Gutta Shapa Nuddee," which is the old Pali word for the Kooladan river. The highest point of the range is over 4,500 feet with an easy ascent, which with very little cost could be made into a fair road. With a fine breeze always blowing from the sea, it possesses a very equable temperature, while the plateau on the top is extensive enough to allow of half a dozen regiments being quartered there. On reaching about 3,000 feet the bamboo belt of jungle is left behind, and tree forest follow until the plateau is reached, when the dwarfed oak, rose-apple, and *Rhododendron* appear, but on the last named flora I may be mistaken. Fine spring water also is

plentiful at the southern end. I visited it twice during the year on my tours to the South-eastern Frontier. Below is a comparative memorandum showing the temperature as it stood at Palukwan, the present head-quarters on the Kooladan, and "Kyouk-pin-doung" in May, from the 22nd to 25th inclusive, which I think may be of interest, as eventually perhaps supplying Burma's, or rather Arakan's, great want, viz., a sanitarium. A steamer or steam launch of light draught can come within 28 miles of the foot of the range, which is only about 130 miles from Akyab, and could be reached in a day :—

DATE.			PALUKWAN AT FOOT OF HILLS.		KYOUK-PIN- DOUNG RANGE.		REMARKS.
			Morning 10 A.M.	Afternoon 3 P.M.	Morning 10 A.M.	Afternoon 3 P.M.	
May	22nd	...	84	98	72	74	Warm day.
Do.	23rd	...	82	97	72	74	Ditto
Do.	24th	...	75	96	62	74	Showers.
Do.	25th	...	75	91	62	74	Ditto
Mean ...			81.25	95.50	67.00	74	

159. I omitted to state that the Chief Commissioner directed some cinchona seed to be sent for trial there, which has been sown on the top. The soil appears, from what I know of the growth of the plant elsewhere in the Toungoo District, adapted to it, but at present during the rains there is no one to look after the plants.

160. It was thought that the *Ficus elastica* was indigenous to these hills, but after much search I have as yet failed to find it, and what was thought at one time to be such turns out to be another gum. I fancy the district is too far south; but possibly the Shindoo tribes further north may recognize it, and eventually bring this valuable product down to our bazaars.

161. Communication as directed by the Chief Commissioner, with the Chittagong Hill Tracts, is now freely effected and used by the people, but as the Chittagong authorities have as yet established no nearer post than that of "Roomah" to Dalukmay, which is four nights' journey distant, our police cannot keep up a patrol. Lieutenant Gordon, the Assistant Commissioner of the Sungoo Sub-division, crossed over to Dalukmay in January last.

162. Coal is said to be found (and indeed a small vein was discovered last year and described on analysis to be of fair quality) to the north-west and south-west of the district. In the absence of any survey, however, it is not easy to hazard an opinion as to what mineral wealth lies latent in these hills.

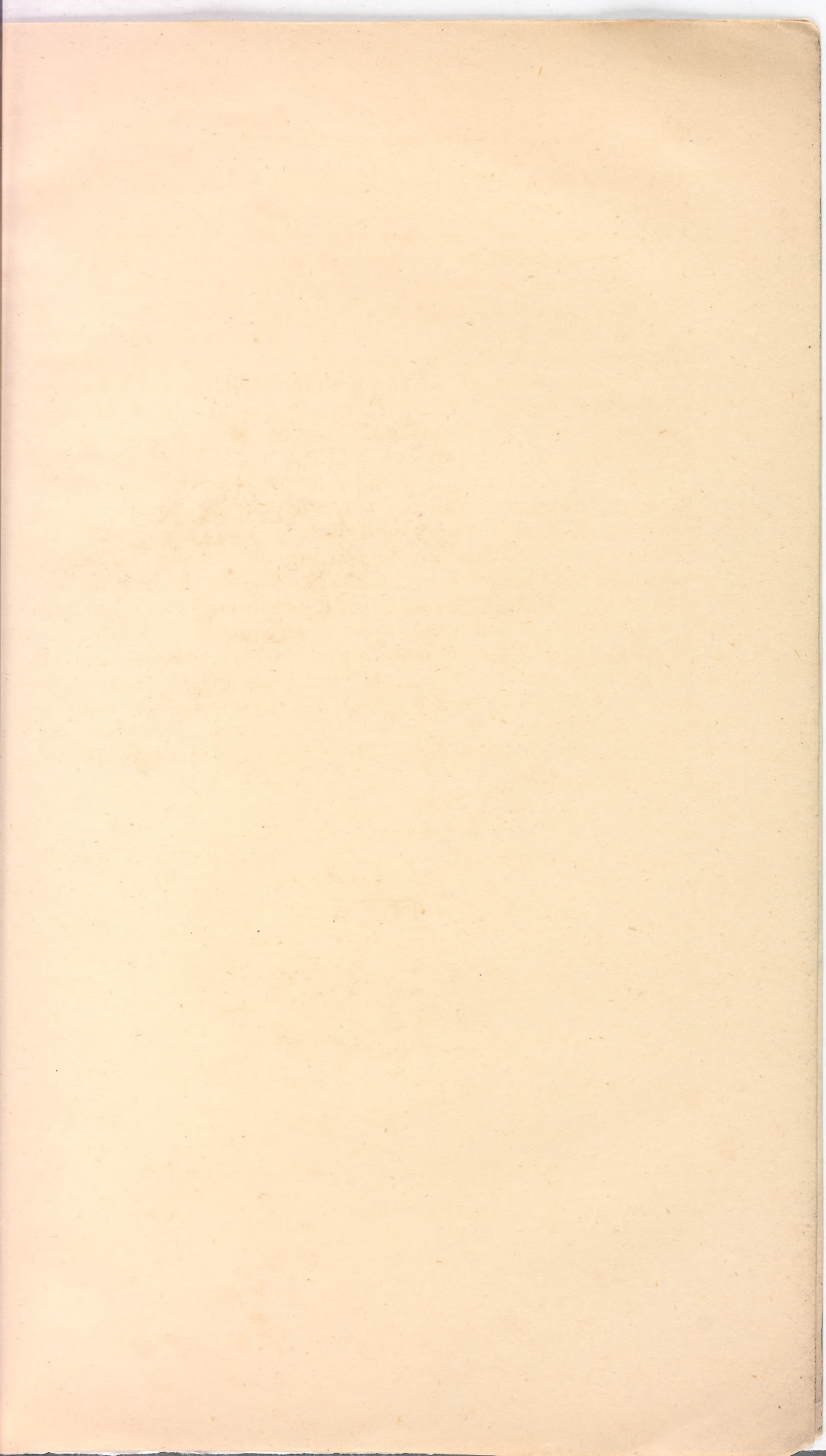
163. As to education, I can only repeat the difficulty which presents itself for manipulating a scheme promising of success, unless an amount of expenditure is sanctioned, which I am not justified in recommending. The subject offers a fine field for the outside world, but I much question whether the time is yet ripe for Government to step in. Doubtless, to train up the hillmen with the object of eventually enabling them to take an active part in their own administration instead of as at present the principal appointment necessarily resting with a class of native officials who have nothing in common with them, cannot control and take still less interest in them, is a great desideratum. Previous paragraphs and reports have fully described the ignorance and superstition prevalent among near 10,000 aborigines with no written language, and consequently I need add nothing further in support of a measure which can alone, eventually in the "race for life," enable the weak, untutored savage to meet his educated brother on equal terms. The subject, as I remarked last year, has my earnest attention, but is one requiring much consideration.

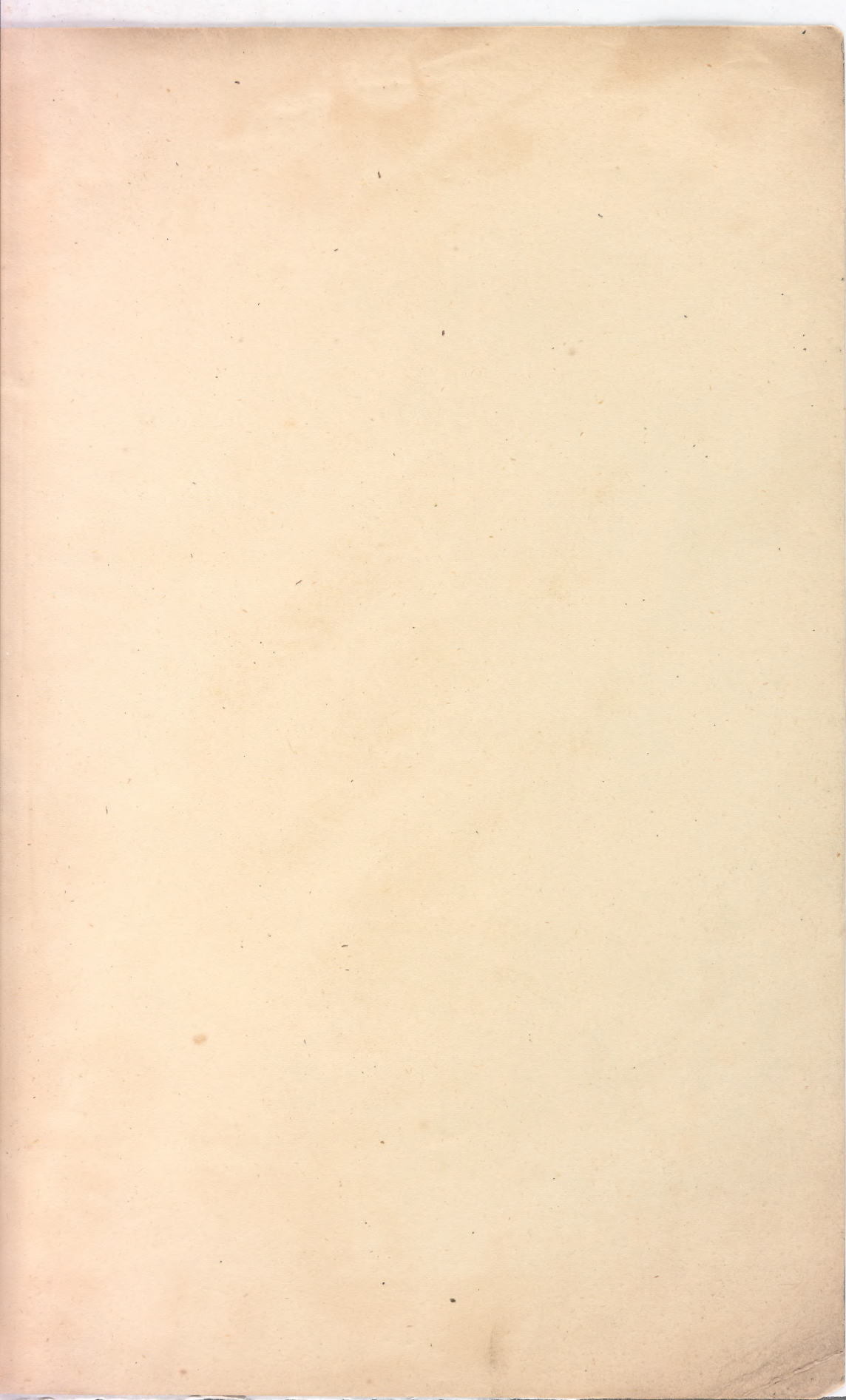
164. The steady working of the new policy initiated now three years back, is gradually making a noticeable impression on the hill tribes, and as important a feature to the tribes as any perhaps of it, viz., the permanent residence of officers in the heart of the hills throughout the year, affords them convincing proof that we mean to rigorously control them. It is beyond question that raids and slavery are dying out, and the tribes generally

becoming amenable to order and rule, while simultaneously agriculture and trade possess greater attractions to them than heretofore. That they have full confidence in their officers is, I think, conclusive from the manner in which they have been shown to have assisted in the repression of crime, as also to a great extent in controlling their own clans.

165. Mixing freely with them, listening patiently to their disputes, and acting in dependent of other native officials directly with them, at the same time upholding the influence of their own recognized Chiefs, together with a study of their language, have much assisted towards gaining their confidence and good will.

166. In conclusion, I would commend to favorable consideration the energy and zeal displayed by the only European Officers, Messrs. Hannay and Porter, who have during the year ably assisted me in endeavouring to carry out the policy and orders of the Chief Commissioner during the administration of these hills in 1873-74. Mr. Inspector Porter has had a somewhat difficult and new charge in supervising the Lemroo, but has shown and brought much intelligence, good temper and tact to the task. Extra Assistant Commissioner Gna-bouk-kay is an active officer, and should in time make a very useful one. The two English native clerks of the Superintendent's Office (Shwe Hnya and Tsan Hla Baw), have given satisfaction.





ADMINISTRATION REPORT
ON THE
HILL TRACTS, NORTHERN ARAKAN
FOR
The year 1873-74.



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1874.